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Atty. Docket: ITW-14306

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Lewis, Albert Haws : Group Art Unit: 3721
Serial No.: 10/645,217 : Examiner: Tawfik, S.
Filed: August 21, 2003
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FEEDING
ZIPPER WITH SLIDERS TO PACKAGING
MACHINE

Hon. Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated July 22, 2004 in the above-referenced patent application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has required restriction to one of six inventions pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 121. The Examiner has distinguished the following inventions: claims 1-14 and 40 (Group I) drawn to a system comprising a packaging machine; claims 15-21 (Group II) drawn to a system comprising a packaging machine with device for using and shaping zipper strips; claims 22-28 (Group III) drawn to a method of manufacture; claims 29-31 (Group IV) drawn to a method of manufacture with zipper accumulation in a zone between the slider insertion station and the joining station; claims 32-36 (Group V) drawn to a system; and claims 37-39 (Group VI) drawn to a method of manufacture.

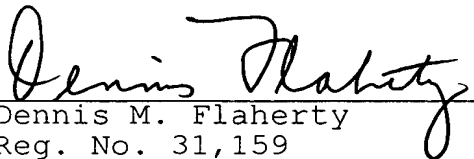


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In response to the restriction requirement, the Applicant hereby elects, with traverse, to prosecute the claims of Group I.

Respectfully submitted,

July 28, 2004
Date


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

July 28, 2004


Dennis M. Flaherty